

CLEAN WATER COUNCIL

Meeting Highlights

May 8, 2001

Location

N.J. Environmental Infrastructure Trust, 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville

Attendees

See attached attendance list.

Highlights Summary

CWC Public Hearing Recommendations

- Ray Zabihach, Todd Kratzer and Bill Ring provided the Council with a document that summarized all of the comments.
- Sort comments into categories.
- Focus the recommendation on the six questions that were presented at the hearing. Explain why we choose the questions and provide a summary of the answers the Council received.
- Suggest to the Department that a reuse/recharge option is beneficial to New Jersey's water resources.
- Open space and preservation are also hot issues for the state.

Action Items

- Pat will follow-up with the Hearing Subcommittee.
- A rough draft with six separate summaries will be provided at the next meeting.
- Recommendation to DEP by June.

Legislation

- S-2250
 - Sponsored by Senator Littell
 - Has not yet moved in Legislature.
 - Prohibits DEP from imposing certain requirements on residential or non-residential developments utilizing septic systems.
 - Negates the adopted regulations pertaining to development of six or less units using septic systems.
 - This bill would return the regulatory framework back to 50 units or less using septic systems.

- S-2235
 - Allocates \$50 million for NPS reduction/pollution
 - Establishes the formation of a Council
 - Funds will be administered by the Department
- MTBE Bill
 - Still hot issue
 - Bill stated that phase out would start immediately - It's a 4 year phase out
 - MTBE presents a ground water and air problem in the state.

Water Quality and Watershed Management Rule

- Proposed on July 3, 2000
- They would have expired on April 30, 2001
- A waiver was approved for an extension to April 30, 2002
- DEP is unable to address the significant number of comments received by July that's why a waiver for an extension was requested.
- Subchapter 10/Grants Process will be adopted by the end of next month.
- Eight Subchapters of the rule will lapse.
- No new stakeholder process will be conducted.
- We will redraft and put out for proposal again.

Surface Water Quality Standards

- Proposed in November, 2000
- Need to be adopted by November, 2001
- Parts of the Standards are tied to the Water Quality and Watershed Rules
- Consulting with attorneys to see what parts of the Standards can be adopted
- Comments received are still being addressed

AFO/CAFO Rules

- These rules are a minor part of the NJPDES Rule
- They will be implemented through the Stormwater Program
- The rules should be out by the end of the summer
- Barry Chalofsky is the lead
- The rule changes how units are defined
- Smaller farms will now be regulated
- The Department of Agriculture will be providing comments to EPA

Action Items

- Ferdow will provide the Council with information on the Department of Agriculture's comments to the rules by the next Council meeting.

- The Council can take a look at how Agriculture is approaching and decide if they want to provide comments and bring issues to the attention of DEP.

NJWEF Annual Meeting

- 2,800 to 2,9000 attendees - very successful conference
- A lot of difference perspectives from around the world
- An entire day was devoted to Watershed Management

Action Items

- Any suggestions for next year's conference should be sent to Dave Baker.

Budget

- All CWC incidentals are covered by the Department (lunches, expenses incurred to attend monthly meetings)
- The CWC would like to have an understanding of the Department's budget for TMDL development and their stream of revenue.

Action Items

- Liz Rosenblatt will attend the next meeting to provide the Council with the results of the 319 grants.
- Gail Lemaldi will attend the next meeting of the Council to provide a summary of the watershed grants projects and what was produced as a result of these grants.

CWC Web Page

Action Items

- Form committee to work on the web page - Tony McCracken interested
- Tony and Suzanne Dice Goldberg will follow-up - identify what needs to be on the web page

The next meeting of the Clean Water Council will be June 12, 2001 at 9:30 a.m. at the DEP Building, 401 E. State Street, 7th Floor. Parking coupons will be provided for the Station Plaza Parking Garage on South Clinton Avenue.

The next meeting of the Statewide Watershed Management Advisory Subcommittee will be June 12, 2001 at 11:15 a.m. at the DEP Building, 401 E. State Street, 7th Floor. Parking coupons will be provided for the Station Plaza Parking Garage on South Clinton Avenue.